

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region VI
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Friday, July 29, 2005
From: Richard Franklin

Subject: First and Final POLREP
BP Amoco Texas City 072805 Fire
2401 5th Avenue South, Texas City, TX
Latitude: 29.3745500
Longitude: -94.9287300

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:
Start Date:	7/28/2005	Response Authority: CERCLA
Mob Date:	7/28/2005	Response Type: Emergency
Demob Date:		NPL Status:
Completion Date:	7/29/2005	Incident Category:
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #:
RCRIS ID #:		

Site Description

On July 28, 2005, the National Response Center notified EPA Region 6 of a fire at the Texas City BP Amoco Refinery (BP), located in Texas City, Galveston County, Texas. The fire was located at a hydrogen treating unit which treated residual products containing large amounts of sulfur. Mutual aid arrived on site and began fire suppression and air monitoring activities. Early reports indicated that there were no deaths, injuries, or offsite impacts such as community evacuations or shelter-in-place, or road closures. Due to the nature of the process unit on fire, chemicals of concern included sulfur dioxide, hydrogen sulfide and petroleum products. The Texas City Fire Department began conducting air monitoring at the refinery's perimeter, and early on in the response reported no indication of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), or volatile organic compounds (VOC). Local Officials issued a shelter-in-place later for areas surrounding the refinery at 2401 5th Avenue.

Current Activities

Upon notification by the NRC, the EPA mobilized its Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) to the site to conduct on-scene monitoring and to assist local responders with air monitoring support. START contractors arrived at the scene at 1045 hours on July 28, 2005. Upon arrival, START met with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) officials and BP Incident Command. Garner Environmental Services, Inc. (BP's contractor), The Texas City Fire Department, and TCEQ performed perimeter and residential air monitoring.

Air monitoring results indicated the presence of VOC in the area immediately downwind of the fire. However, monitoring downwind in the residential areas indicated generally non-detect levels for H₂S and SO₂, and very low levels of VOC. Air monitoring by START indicated the same results, but did have some very low levels of H₂S, VOC, and particulate matter. Parameters being monitored included particulate matter, SO₂, VOCs, LEL, and H₂S.

Water from fire suppression efforts was contained in BP drainage and secondary containment system. Drainage water will be sampled and tested for TOC, TSS, oil and grease. The Shelter-In-Place was lifted at 0156 hours and the fire was extinguished at 0230 hours, with the exception of one hot spot which was contained. START was released from the site at 0400 hours. Garner will continue air monitoring through July 29, 2005. Mutual Aid was released from the site; however, a skeleton crew will remain on site through July 29, 2005 to extinguish the remaining hot spot and demobilize equipment.

Next Steps

None.

Key Issues

None

response.epa.gov/BPTexasCityJuly05fire